

Amendment No. 1 to HB0091

Sexton C  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 1172**

**House Bill No. 91\***

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following language:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section to be appropriately designated:

(a) The department of human services shall not seek to waive the federal eligibility time limit established under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(o) unless it is determined that a specific area in which individuals reside meet either of the following conditions:

(1) Has an unemployment rate of over ten percent (10%) or an amount as determined by federal law; or

(2) Does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.

(b) To support waiver requests based on unemployment rates or labor force data, the department must submit data that relies on standard federal bureau of labor statistics (BLS) data or other methods including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Evidence that an area has:

(A) A recent twelve (12) month average unemployment rate over ten percent (10%) or other amount as determined by federal law;

(B) A recent three (3) month average unemployment rate over ten percent (10%) or other amount as determined by federal law; or

(C) An historical seasonal unemployment rate over ten percent (10%) or other amount as determined by federal law; or

(2) Evidence that an area:

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(A) Is designated as a labor surplus area (LSA) by the federal department of labor's employment and training administration (ETA);

(B) Is determined by the federal department of labor's unemployment insurance service as qualifying for extended unemployment benefits;

(C) Has a low and declining employment-to-population ratio; or has a lack of jobs in declining occupations or industries;

(D) Is described in an academic study or other publications as an area where there is a lack of jobs; or

(E) Has a twenty-four (24) month average unemployment rate twenty percent (20%) above the national average for the same twenty-four (24) month period. This twenty-four (24) month period may not be any earlier than the same twenty-four (24) month period the ETA uses to designate LSAs for the fiscal year at the time this determination is made.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.